

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-16. (Canceled)

17. (New) A system for collecting commodity specifications and related customer information, comprising:

a fundamental information presenting mechanism configured to present fundamental information concerning a commodity under development to an answerer by utilizing a bidirectional communication system that uses a computer, the fundamental information including a plurality of commodity specifications and a plurality of expected selling prices;

an answer recording mechanism configured to receive and record an answer from the answerer by utilizing the bidirectional communication system that uses the computer, the answer including desired commodity specifications, purchase candidate prices and intent to purchase the commodity; and

a commodity price calculating mechanism configured to calculate a commodity price by multiplying the cumulative number of purchase candidates by their desired respective purchasing prices, to compare the calculated commodity price to a manufacturing cost, and to transmit to each purchase willing person a message showing that the commodity price is less than a required amount when the comparison indicates that an appropriate profit will not be generated, the message further requesting the purchase willing person to increase the desired purchasing price,

wherein said answer recording mechanism is configured to receive and record a modified desired purchasing price from an answerer having received the message, and

wherein said commodity price calculating mechanism is configured to calculate a second commodity price based on said modified desired purchasing prices, to compare the modified commodity price to the manufacturing cost, and to send to the purchase candidates an indication that it is determined to commercialize the commodity and price information when the comparison indicates that the appropriate profit will be generated as a result of the modified desired purchasing prices.

18. (New) The system for collecting commodity specifications and related customer information according to claim 17, wherein said commodity price calculating mechanism is configured to send a first estimated price as pricing information of the commodity to the purchase candidates who did not answer said message with increased desired purchasing price, and to send a second increased price as pricing information of the commodity to the purchase candidates who did answer said message with increased desired purchasing price when the comparison indicates that the appropriate profit will be generated as a result of the modified desired purchasing prices.

19. (New) The system for collecting commodity specifications and related customer information according to claim 17, wherein said commodity price calculating mechanism is configured to calculate a second commodity price based on one or more of said modified desired purchasing prices and one or more of said desired purchasing prices.

20. (New) A method for collecting commodity specifications and related customer information, executed by a system comprising:

- a fundamental information presenting mechanism configured to present fundamental information concerning a commodity under development to an answerer by utilizing a bidirectional communication system that uses a computer, the fundamental information including a plurality of commodity specifications and a plurality of expected selling prices;

- an answer recording mechanism configured to receive and record an answer from the answerer by utilizing the bidirectional communication system that uses the computer, the answer including desired commodity specifications, purchase candidate prices and intent to purchase the commodity; and

- a commodity price calculating mechanism configured to calculate a commodity price by multiplying the cumulative number of purchase candidates by their desired respective purchasing prices, to compare the calculated commodity price to a manufacturing cost, and to transmit to each purchase willing person a message showing that the commodity price is less than a required amount when the comparison indicates that an appropriate profit will not be generated, the message further requesting the purchase willing person to increase the desired purchasing price,

wherein said answer recording mechanism is configured to receive and record a modified desired purchasing price from an answerer having received the message, and

wherein said commodity price calculating mechanism is configured to calculate a second commodity price based on said modified desired purchasing prices, to compare the modified commodity price to the manufacturing cost, and to send to the purchase candidates an indication that it is determined to commercialize the commodity and price information when the comparison indicates that the appropriate profit will be generated as a result of the modified desired purchasing prices.

21. (New) The method for collecting commodity specifications and related customer information according to claim 20, wherein said commodity price calculating mechanism is configured to send a first estimated price as pricing information of the commodity to the purchase candidates who did not answer said message with increased desired purchasing price, and to send a second increased price as pricing information of the commodity to the purchase candidates who did answer said message with increased desired purchasing price when the comparison indicates that the appropriate profit will be generated as a result of the modified desired purchasing prices.

22. (New) The method for collecting commodity specifications and related customer information according to claim 20, wherein said commodity price calculating mechanism is configured to calculate a second commodity price based on one or more of said modified desired purchasing prices and one or more of said desired purchasing prices.

23. (New) A recording medium recorded with a program for making a server collect commodity specifications and related customer information, said server comprising:

a fundamental information presenting mechanism configured to present fundamental information concerning a commodity under development to an answerer by utilizing a bidirectional communication system that uses a computer, the fundamental information including a plurality of commodity specifications and a plurality of expected selling prices;

an answer recording mechanism configured to receive and record an answer from the answerer by utilizing the bidirectional communication system that uses the computer,

the answer including desired commodity specifications, purchase candidate prices and intent to purchase the commodity; and

a commodity price calculating mechanism configured to calculate a commodity price by multiplying the cumulative number of purchase candidates by their desired respective purchasing prices, to compare the calculated commodity price to a manufacturing cost, and to transmit to each purchase willing person a message showing that the commodity price is less than a required amount when the comparison indicates that an appropriate profit will not be generated, the message further requesting the purchase willing person to increase the desired purchasing price,

wherein said answer recording mechanism is configured to receive and record a modified desired purchasing price from an answerer having received the message, and

wherein said commodity price calculating mechanism is configured to calculate a second commodity price based on said modified desired purchasing prices, to compare the modified commodity price to the manufacturing cost, and to send to the purchase candidates an indication that it is determined to commercialize the commodity and price information when the comparison indicates that the appropriate profit will be generated as a result of the modified desired purchasing prices.

24. (New) The recorded medium recorded with a program according to claim 23, wherein said commodity price calculating mechanism is configured to send a first estimated price as pricing information of the commodity to the purchase candidates who did not answer said message with increased desired purchasing price, and to send a second increased price as pricing information of the commodity to the purchase candidates who did answer said message with increased desired purchasing price when the comparison indicates that the appropriate profit will be generated as a result of the modified desired purchasing prices.

25. (New) The system for collecting commodity specifications and related customer information according to claim 23, wherein said commodity price calculating mechanism is configured to calculate a second commodity price based on one or more of said modified desired purchasing prices and one or more of said desired purchasing prices.

26. (New) A method for collecting commodity specifications and related customer information, comprising:

presenting fundamental information concerning a commodity under development to a first plurality of answerers, said fundamental information comprising a plurality of commodity specifications and a plurality of potential selling prices;

receiving and recording an answer from each of said plurality of answerers after said fundamental information is received, said answer comprising desired commodity specifications and a desired purchase price;

determining a sales value by summing the desired selling prices of the plurality of answerers;

comparing the sales value to a threshold related to the manufacturing cost;

requesting that one or more of said plurality of answerers increase said desired purchase price when said sales value is less than said threshold;

receiving and recording a second answer from said one or more of said plurality of answerers, said second answer comprising a modified desired purchase price; and

determining a modified sales value based on said desired selling prices and said modified desired selling prices,

wherein a plurality of final purchase prices comprise said desired purchase price and said modified desired purchase price.

27. (New) The method of claim 26, further comprising indicating to each of said plurality of answerers that said commodity will be available to each of said plurality of answerers price when said sales value is equal to or greater than said threshold.

28. (New) The method of claim 26, further comprising indicating to each of said plurality of answerers a respective final purchase price of said plurality of final purchase prices, said respective final purchase price equal to a respective desired purchase price or a modified desired purchase price from said answerer.

29. (New) The method of claim 26, further comprising manufacturing said commodity when said modified sales value is equal to or greater than said threshold.

30. (New) The method of claim 29, wherein said manufactured commodity comprises said desired commodity specifications.

31. (New) The method of claim 26, further comprising

Application No.: 10/070,265
Filing Date.: February 25, 2002

presenting fundamental information concerning the commodity under development to the first plurality of answerers via a web page that is accessible from a plurality of user terminals; and

receiving and recording said answer from each answer from one of said plurality of user terminals.